

South Dakota National Guard

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

82nd CST receives state safety award

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The South Dakota Army National Guard's 82nd Civil Support Team, of Rapid City, was awarded The Adjutant General's 2014 Unit Safety Award at Ellsworth Air Force Base, Friday, March 6.

The award recognizes outstanding effort and achievement in establishing and maintaining a viable unit safety and accident prevention within the South Dakota Army National Guard.

"I couldn't be more proud of the 82nd," said Lt. Col. Brendan Murphy, commander of the 82nd. "I am humbled to receive this prestigious safety award on behalf of the men and women of this team."

"The unit's leadership, including their appointed safety officer and noncommissioned officers, has established a safety program that promotes awareness and accident prevention," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Lonny Hofer, SDNG state safety officer. "This is done through training, monthly safety briefs and controls emplaced during their risk assessment for performing mission tasks down to the individual Soldier level."

The 82nd CST is the state's all-hazard response team capable of detecting chemical, biological, radiological and explosive materials. The unit responds to incidents of local, state and national significance and provides support to civilian authority and agencies such as local fire departments, police/sheriff departments, county emergency management offices and other agencies of the first-responder community.

"In addition to frequent training events the 82nd conducts, the unit also responded to the Wessington Springs tornado and supported the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally," said Hofer. "Their missions and duties include higher potential risks while maintaining mission readiness."

"We have a unique mission and a high training tempo that, by its very nature, challenges each member to perform their duties in a safe manner every day," said Murphy. "It is evident that every person on this team works very hard, cares deeply about what they do and knows that safety starts with each one of them."

According to Hofer, the CST had no accidents or incidents that resulted in service member lost time or restricted duty, 100 percent compliant in their annual safety inspection and annual Ellsworth AFB fire inspection, 100 percent compliant in their Standardization Evaluation and Assistance Team Safety Function Area Inspection, and 100 percent completion for their required safety-related training.

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“The 82nd CST emphasizes the adjutant general’s safety philosophy,” said Hofer. “Their leadership recognizes that they have a responsibility to remain vigilant in engaging all stakeholders in their unit safety program. Their training, discipline and standards are manifested in the South Dakota Army National Guard safety slogan, ‘Be safe; Know what’s right; Do what’s right.’”

“Everyone here puts forth a tremendous effort to train hard and realistically,” said Murphy. “Safety is of the utmost importance in everything we do and I feel honored, proud and fortunate to be on such a great team like the 82nd.”

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High resolution photos are available at www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard



150306-Z-CW157-001: South Dakota National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch presents Lt. Col. Brendan Murphy, 82nd Civil Support Team commander, with The Adjutant General’s Unit Safety Award, March 6, 2015, at the unit’s armory at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. The unit received the SDARNG’s annual award for outstanding effort and achievement in establishing and maintaining a viable unit safety and accident prevention program. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Theanne Herrmann/Released)



140401-Z-AB123-002: South Dakota Army National Guard 82nd Civil Support Team commander Lt. Col. Brendan Murphy, center left, and 1st Sgt. Michael Weyrich, center right, accept The Adjutant General’s Unit Safety Award from Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, far left, and Chief Warrant Officer 5 Lonny Hofer, SDNG state safety officer, at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D, March 6, 2015. The unit received the SDARNG’s annual award for outstanding effort and achievement in establishing and maintaining a viable unit safety and accident prevention program. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Theanne Herrmann/Released)



140401-Z-AB123-003: The South Dakota Army National Guard’s 82nd Civil Support Team, of Rapid City, was awarded The Adjutant General’s Unit Safety Award, March 6, 2015. The SDARNG’s annual award recognizes outstanding effort and achievement in establishing and maintaining a viable unit safety and accident prevention program during the previous fiscal year. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Theanne Herrmann/Released)

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